



Special Joint Meeting
MINUTES
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
AND
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
Lakeside Room, Fairmount Boathouse
2601 Fairmount Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92501
May 22, 2006 at 6:00pm
(951) 826-5427

I. Call to Order at 6:05

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

II. Introductions and Public Comment

Members of the public introduced themselves.

III. Presentation by Shane's Inspiration

Brad Thornton and Tiffany Harris provided background information on the creation and mission of Shane's Inspiration. There are currently 46 projects in development, ten in the City of Los Angeles. Ms. Harris highlighted the programmatic aspect of Shane's Inspiration. When asked about the difference between an ADA accessible playground and the Universally Accessible playground, Ms. Harris cited examples such as the lack of ramps in a typical playground. A Universally Accessible playground is designed so that children with wheelchairs are able to reach all parts of the playground, in addition, a Universally Accessible playground includes sensory features and accessible rubberized surfacing. Ms. Harris estimated the cost as 10% of the equipment cost; however, that covers grant seeking services and playground design. When asked about the difference between a typical playground manufacturer and a Shane's Inspiration playground, is that Shane's works more comprehensively with all aspects of the child's play experience. The organization assists local governments in identifying funds. She identified the rubberized surfacing as a significant cost. \$350,000-\$400,000 is a typical estimate for playground equipment in Riverside. In addition to the benefits to children with disabilities, Ms. Harris highlighted the fact that parents or guardians can have access to play along side the children. She indicated that community support organizations and community input are integral to the success of the playground and referenced Kids Included Together (KIT) as an organization that can assist with programming. The City of Los Angeles received million from prop 40 dollars to design additional playgrounds. Ms. Harris also highlighted the importance of looking at the whole park; restrooms, changing tables, electrical outlets, etc. Sr. Park Planner Bob Johnson indicated that Fairmount Park and Andulka Park are the proposed playground locations. When asked about the process of creating a universally accessible park, Mr. Thorton replied that there are no set timelines. The organization has templates for community events, fundraisers, and design. In addition, Shane's Inspiration holds a community engagement meeting with local doctors and services organizations to create a list of priorities for the community. Ms. Harris indicated that Shane's Inspiration enters into a contract that ensures the 10% for their services, although she indicated that there might be up-front fees.

Kim Wilder (public)-Asked what the standard is on the amount of accessibility on the existing playgrounds.

Bob Johnson answered that all should meeting the ADA and state standards. He explained that after ADA passed, agencies were required to develop a transition plan. He indicated that the Parks Department has tried to move forward as best they can with the year-to-year funding.

Motion: to move to the next agenda item
M/S/C: Garcia/Zwart/Carried

IV. New Business

A. Universally Accessible Playground

Mary Fowlie suggested that next steps on the playground should involve the school districts. Commissioner Robinson highlighted that parents with disabilities are also benefited from accessible playgrounds.

Motion: to move to the next agenda item
M/S/C: Robinson/Puffer/Carried

B. Playground Subcommittee

Commissioners discussed the possibility of creating a joint subcommittee to continue the efforts to bring an accessible playground to the Riverside parks.

Motion: to support the concept of a Universally Accessible Playground and create a subcommittee consisting of two commissioners from each commission.
M/S/C: Zwart/Keller/Carried

Motion: To close item B.
M/S/C: Robinson/Berg/Carried

V. Items for future Commission Consideration to a future agenda of either Commission

Commission on Disabilities future agenda items:

- 1) to include news articles pertaining to disabilities rights or people with disabilities
- 2) to include an item for more lengthy introductions

VI. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm
M/S/C: Robinson/Sanz/Carried